CLAIMS

1. A composition comprising a blend of first and second esters,

the first ester comprising a reaction product of first reactants comprising trimer acid or reactive equivalent thereof, first polyhydric alcohol or reactive equivalent thereof, and first monohydric alcohol or reactive equivalent thereof; the first monohydric alcohol being selected from the group of C_{8-18} monohydric alcohols or reactive equivalents thereof;

the second ester comprising a reaction product of second reactants comprising trimer acid or reactive equivalent thereof, second polyhydric alcohol or reactive equivalent thereof, and second monohydric alcohol or reactive equivalent thereof; the second monohydric alcohol being selected from the group of C_{6-10} monohydric alcohols or reactive equivalents thereof;

the first and second monohydric alcohols being non-identical.

2. The composition of claim 1 wherein the first reactants and the second reactants each further comprise dimer acid.

3. The composition of claim 2 wherein the first reactants and the second reactants each comprise dimer acid and trimer acid, in a dimer acid:trimer acid weight ratio of 20:80 to 80:20, the weight ratio independently selected in each of the first and second reactants.

4. The composition of any of claims 1-3 wherein the trimer acid is hydrogenated trimer acid.

5. The composition of any of claims 1-4 wherein the first monohydric alcohol is selected from C_{10-14} primary monohydric alcohols.

6. The composition of any of claims 1-5 wherein the first monohydric alcohol is *iso*-tridecyl alcohol.

7. The composition of any of claims 1-6 wherein the first and second polyhydric alcohols are each selected from C_{3-15} polyhydric alcohols.

8. The composition of any of claims 1-6 wherein the first and second polyhydric alcohols are each independently selected from pentaerythritol, di-pentaerythritol, tri-pentaerythritol, trimethylolpropane, ethylene glycol and neopentyl glycol.

9. The composition of any of claims 1-6 wherein the first and second polyhydric alcohols are each neopentyl glycol.

10. The composition of any of claims 1-6 wherein the second monohydric alcohol is selected from 2-ethylhexanol, 2-octanol and cyclohexyl alcohol.

11. The composition of any of claims 1-6 wherein the second monohydric alcohol is 2-ethylhexanol.

12. The composition of any of claims 1-11 wherein the first ester has a greater viscosity than the second ester.

13. The composition of any of claims 1-12 having a viscosity of 30-50 cSt at 100°C.

14. The composition of any of claims 1-13 having a viscosity of about 40 cSt at 100°C.

15. The composition of claim 1 wherein the first monohydric alcohol is selected from the group of C_{10-15} primary monohydric alcohols; the second monohydric alcohol is selected from the group consisting of C_8 monohydric alcohols; the first and second polyhydric alcohols are selected from C_{3-15} polyhydric alcohols, and the viscosity of the composition is in the range of 30-50 cSt at 100°C.

16. A method for preparing an ester composition having a viscosity in the range of 30-50 cSt at 100°C, the method comprising the steps of:

a) preparing a first ester, the first ester comprising a reaction product of first reactants comprising trimer acid, first polyhydric alcohol and first

monohydric alcohol; the first monohydric alcohol selected from the group of C_{8-18} monohydric alcohols;

b) preparing a second ester, the second ester comprising a reaction product of second reactants comprising trimer acid, second polyhydric alcohol and second monohydric alcohol; the second monohydric alcohol selected from the group of C_{6-10} monohydric alcohols; and

c) blending the first and second esters together in a proportion to provide an ester composition having a viscosity in the range of 30-50 cSt at 100°C;

with the proviso that the first and second monohydric alcohols are non-identical.

17. The method of claim 16 wherein the first reactants and the second reactants each further comprise dimer acid, in a dimer acid:trimer acid weight ratio of 20:80 to 80:20, the weight ratio independently selected in each of the first and second reactants.

18. The method of any of claims 16-17 wherein the trimer acid is hydrogenated trimer acid.

19. The method of any of claims 16-18 wherein the first monohydric alcohol is selected from C_{10-14} primary monohydric alcohols.

20. The method of any of claims 16-19 wherein the first and second polyhydric alcohols are each selected from C_{3-15} polyhydric alcohols.

21. The method of any of claims 16-20 wherein the second monohydric alcohol is selected from 2-ethylhexanol, 2-octanol and cyclohexyl alcohol.

22. The method of any of claims 16-21 wherein the first ester has a greater viscosity than the second ester.

23. The method of claim 16 wherein the first monohydric alcohol is selected from the group of C_{10-15} primary monohydric alcohols; the second monohydric alcohol is selected from the group consisting of C_8

monohydric alcohols; the first and second polyhydric alcohols are selected from C_{3-15} polyhydric alcohols; and the first ester has a greater viscosity than the second ester.

24. A composition prepared by the method of any of claims 16-23.

25. A cable-filling composition comprising silica and a blend of first and second esters,

the first ester comprising a reaction product of first reactants comprising trimer acid, first polyhydric alcohol and first monohydric alcohol; the first monohydric alcohol selected from the group of C_{8-18} monohydric alcohols;

the second ester comprising a reaction product of second reactants comprising trimer acid, second polyhydric alcohol and second monohydric alcohol; the second monohydric alcohol selected from the group of C_{6-10} monohydric alcohols;

the first and second monohydric alcohols being non-identical.

26. The composition of claim 25 wherein the first monohydric alcohol is selected from the group of C_{10-15} primary monohydric alcohols; the second monohydric alcohol is selected from the group consisting of C_8 monohydric alcohols; the first and second polyhydric alcohols are selected from C_{3-15} polyhydric alcohols, and the viscosity of the blend is in the range of 30-50 cSt at 100°C.

27. A method for insulating the contents of a cable, the method comprising

a) preparing a cable-filling composition comprising silica and a blend of first and second esters; the first ester comprising a reaction product of first reactants comprising trimer acid, first polyhydric alcohol and first monohydric alcohol; the first monohydric alcohol selected from the group of C_{8-18} monohydric alcohols; the second ester comprising a reaction product of second reactants comprising trimer acid, second polyhydric alcohol and second monohydric alcohol; the second monohydric alcohol selected from the group of C_{6-10} monohydric alcohols; the first and second monohydric alcohols being non-identical;

b) placing the cable-filling composition of step a) into a fiber optic cable.

28. The method of claim 27 wherein the cable is a fiber optic cable.

29. A cable comprising a cable-filling composition; the cable-filling composition comprising silica and a blend of first and second esters; the first ester comprising a reaction product of first reactants comprising trimer acid, first polyhydric alcohol and first monohydric alcohol; the first monohydric alcohol selected from the group of C_{8-18} monohydric alcohols; the second ester comprising a reaction product of second reactants comprising trimer acid, second polyhydric alcohol and second monohydric alcohol; the second monohydric alcohol selected from the group of C_{6-10} monohydric alcohols; wherein the first and second monohydric alcohols are non-identical.

30. The cable of claim 29 wherein the cable is a fiber optic cable.